



PLACER COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE/ DELINQUENCY PREVENTION COMMISSION

2012-2013 Annual Report

Placer County Juvenile Justice/Delinquency Prevention Commission
C/O: Placer County Probation
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Mission/Purpose

The mission of the Placer County Juvenile Justice/Delinquency Prevention Commission is to be a public conscience in the interest of justice for youth; encourage and support the planning and evaluation of programs which prevent delinquency; and provide a leadership forum for citizen action.

Mandated under Welfare & Institutions Code sections 225, 229, 230, 270 and 271, the purpose of the Juvenile Justice Commission is to inquire into the administration of juvenile justice within the County, inspections of publicly operated juvenile institutions within the County, provide the County with a coordinating body for activities designed to reduce juvenile and adult delinquency.

The Delinquency Prevention Commission is focused on activities that can prevent juveniles from entering into the court system to begin with. These activities may include advising the County department staff of policy recommendations and work with, establish, and bridge relationships with and between County staff, community groups, agencies, etc.

In Placer County, the Juvenile Justice Commission and the Delinquency Prevention Commission are combined under one commission.

Commission Membership

The commission is comprised of no less than 7 members and no more than 15 members. Two seats are to be reserved for youth between the ages of 14 and 21. Commissioners are community volunteers who are citizens of the United States and residents of the County. They must be able to carry out the duties of a Commissioner in a satisfactory manner, including attendance at meetings, participation in inspections and investigations, and preparation of reports.

Commissioners are appointed for terms of four years by the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court with the concurrence of the Supervising Judge of the Juvenile Court, and can be reappointed upon the expiration of their terms. New Commissioners can be appointed as vacancies occur.

The Supervising Juvenile Court Judge for the 2012-2013 fiscal year is Hon. Colleen Nichols.

In 2012 the Commission accepted resignations from Terry Crouson, Nick Willick, Chris Reams, and Trish Anderson. The Commission thanks these individuals for their service to the youth of Placer County.

The Commission was pleased to announce the appointments of the following commissioners: Nancie Wiseman Attwater, John Richardson, Paul Comiskey, and Randi Swisley.

2012-2013 Commissioners:

Seat 1: John Richardson	Seat 9: Tammy Todd
Seat 2: Diane Shinstock	Seat 10: Sam Stodolski
Seat 3: Nancie Wiseman Attwater	Seat 11: <i>Vacant</i>
Seat 4: Christina Miller	Seat 12: Monique Molina
Seat 5: Paul Comiskey	Seat 13: Randi Swisley
Seat 6: Bryan Urquidez	Seat 14: <i>Vacant</i>
Seat 7: <i>Vacant</i>	Seat 15: Greg A. Calac, Sr.
Seat 8: Sandena Bader	Lifetime Emeritus Member: Jane Chapman-Ames

2012-2013 Committee Assignments

Executive Committee

Sam Stodolski, Chair
Christina Miller, Vice Chair
Diane Shinstock, Vice Chair of Community Relations
Randi Swisley, Secretary

Juvenile Justice Evaluation Committee

Nancie Wiseman Attwater, Committee Chair
Sam Stodolski, Past Committee Chair
Sandena Bader
John Richardson
Diane Shinstock

Juvenile Hall Mentor Program

Sam Stodolski, Committee Chair
Christina Miller
Randi Swisley

Community Relations Committee

Diane Shinstock, Committee Chair
Sam Stodolski
John Richardson
Paul Comiskey

Hearing Committee

Diane Shinstock, Committee Chair
Sam Stodolski
Monique Molina
Sandena Bader

Inspection Committee

All Commissioners

2012-2013 Inspections

- Placer County Juvenile Detention Facility
- Koinonia Crisis Resolution Center
- Koinonia School
- Koinonia House 1
- Koinonia House 2
- Koinonia House 3
- Koinonia House 4

** Pursuant to Welfare & Institutions Code § 229, the Juvenile Justice Commission only inspects jails or lockups within the county who reported confining juveniles for more than 24 hours. No police/sheriff departments in Placer County reported having confined juveniles for more than 24 hours during the 2012-2013 fiscal year.*

Koinonia Inspections

In April, Bill Ryland from Koinonia presented to the Commission and provided an overview of Koinonia, their group homes, school, and the Crisis Resolution Center. Commissioners completed inspections of all Koinonia homes and facilities in May. The Koinonia inspection reports were published by the Commission.

Placer County Juvenile Detention Facility Inspection

In May, Commissioners conducted a walk thru inspection of the Placer County Juvenile Detention Facility. Commissioners also reviewed all grievances filed by juveniles from June 2012-May 2013 and all serious incident reports. The Commission will share their inspection findings with the Placer County Grand Jury. The Placer County Juvenile Detention Facility inspection report was published by the Commission.

The Juvenile Justice/Delinquency Prevention Commission provided over 566 hours of service during the 2012-2013 fiscal year.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee worked diligently to further fine tune the overall administration and operations of the Commission. Revisions were made to the bylaws and passed via majority vote of the commission in November 2012 and again in May 2013. The May 2013 revisions to the bylaws consisted of a comprehensive election process for the positions of Chair, Vice Chair, and Vice Chair of Community Relations that is consistent with Robert's Rules of Order.

The committee began revisions of the Commission policies and procedures. The updated policies and procedures are expected to be presented to the Commission for approval in August 2013.

The committee has been working with Placer County Probation, Placer County Counsel, and the County Executive Office to develop a mileage reimbursement process for commissioners to be reimbursed for expenses pursuant to Welfare & Institutions Code § 231.

Community Relations Committee

In an effort to better engage the community of Placer County in supporting the youth served by Placer County Probation and to engage in delinquency prevention efforts, the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Commission of Placer County formed the Community Relations Committee in early 2011. The 2012-2013 objectives of the Committee were:

Objective I – Increase community awareness of the Commission’s efforts and improve the Commission’s public reputation.

Objective II – Increase Commission and community involvement in Juvenile Justice Administration and Delinquency Prevention efforts

Objective III – With greater community involvement:

- Identify alternatives to decrease recidivism
- Increase community capacity to improve outcomes for youth and to deter juvenile crime.

Objective IV – Coordinate local youth forums for perspective on delinquency causes, interventions and prevention efforts.

Since its inception, attendance and involvement has been minimal. Recent appointments to the Commission and therefore, the Committee have created an increase in activity. Due to these circumstances, only Objectives One and Two were focused on. In the past year, the following has been completed:

- Facebook and Twitter accounts have been created
 - <https://www.facebook.com/JJDPC>
 - @placercojjdpc
- Committee members are uploading relative articles in an effort to grow the social media following
- When appropriate, at least one member of Committee will attend the Board of Supervisors meetings
- Continue tracking state legislation pertinent to juvenile justice administration and form an official position on such.
- A draft brochure had been created and will be finalized for publication
- An email account was established (placerjuvenilejustice@gmail.com)
- A Google voice line was created (530-637-8338)

Juvenile Justice Evaluation Committee

After a year of appropriations, the Evaluation Committee began conducting interviews and surveys of families and youth who are currently involved in the juvenile justice system. Commissioners are present at juvenile court and ask youth and families to share feedback (via a preapproved questionnaire) on both the court process and the system as a whole. Youth and families are informed that the information they give is confidential and only used to identify trends and gauge their understanding of the juvenile justice system. Commissioners also visited and interviewed youth incarcerated at the Juvenile Detention Facility. This process will continue into the next fiscal year with a preliminary report expected in the fall of 2013. Commissioner Wiseman Attwater was appointed as Committee Chair in April 2013.

Hearing Committee

The Hearing Committee is an ad hoc committee established to review concerns brought forward by members of the community or other Commissioners. The members of the committee meet only when a concern is brought to the Commission. When appropriate, members will meet with citizens bringing issues to their attention. Members will then present their findings to the full Commission for final recommendations. The Commission itself is restricted to address system issues and not advocate on behalf of any individual.

This past year, the Hearing Committee reviewed the concerns one parent had regarding her child's formal Probation. The Hearing Committee met with the parent, and subsequently met several additional times to further discuss the Commission's role in addressing this parent's concerns.

The Committee was also contacted by the Juvenile Hall Chaplain who expressed concerns over the number of youth being prosecuted as adults. The findings of this issue are still pending further investigation.

Juvenile Hall Mentor Program

The Juvenile Detention Facility Mentor Program started in 2011 as a pilot project. Volunteer mentors actively visited youth in the facility and worked with them on life skills and other projects. The Committee worked on developing infrastructure and liability coverage. The Placer County Probation department provided background checks and fingerprinting for all volunteer mentors.

Recruiting quality mentors and maintaining adequate schedules became a challenge in 2012. The committee met with the Assistant Superintendent of the Juvenile Detention Facility and agreed to place the program on hold until the committee and facility administration can come up with a better infrastructure and program outline. This program may be revisited at a future date.

Commission's Communication with the Public

The Commission has created several methods in which to engage with the community and provide a means of contact for the public.

The Commission can be found on social media via Facebook and Twitter:

Facebook: Placer County Juvenile Justice/Delinquency Prevention Commission

Twitter: PlacerCoJJDPC

Email: placerjuvenilejustice@gmail.com

The Commission now has a confidential voice line that can be reached by calling (530) 637-8338

The official webpage for the Placer County Juvenile Justice/Delinquency Prevention Commission can be found at <http://www.placer.courts.ca.gov/JJDPC/JJDPC.html>

Commission Publications

The Following Commission publications can be found on the Commission's webpage at

<http://www.placer.courts.ca.gov/JJDPC/JJDPC.html>

- Agendas
- Meeting Minutes
- Inspection Reports
- Commissioner Application
- Commission Bylaws
- Annual Report

Commission Special Projects

Support for Senate Bill 727

On Thursday, March 28, 2013 the Commission approved a motion to send a letter of support for Senate Bill 727. Senate Bill 727 requires producers of medications to design, fund and oversee operations of a take-back program for pharmaceutical medications. While this is not an apparent juvenile justice issue, it is believed to be a delinquency prevention issue if the community considers the vast amount of juveniles who are abusing prescription drugs in Placer County.

Chairman Stodolski drafted the letter of support and sent it to Public Health to disseminate.

Coalition for Placer Youth

Commissioner Shinstock and Chairman Stodolski serve as ambassadors to the Steering Committee of the Coalition for Placer Youth, a non-profit community organization striving to help prevent and reduce substance abuse among youth in Placer County.

Placer County Youth Commission

In May, Chairman Stodolski made a presentation to the Placer County Youth Commission on the mandated duties of the Juvenile Justice Commission, its role and function within the juvenile justice system and the relevant issues regarding minors in this system and the function and goals of the Delinquency Prevention Commission.

Trainings

In the fall of 2012, Commissioners Shinstock and Richardson attended “Beyond the Basics: Juvenile Justice Commission Inspection Training” facilitated by the Board of State and Community Corrections, hosted by Yolo County.

The Commission has discussed creating an annual Inspection Training as well as a New Commissioner Orientation Training and some additional Title 15 training. These trainings will be looked into for the 2013-2014 fiscal year.

Goals for 2013-2014

- Creation and Implementation of an annual Inspection Training and New Commissioner Orientation Training
- Advanced Title 15 Training
- Continuation of the Juvenile Justice Evaluations and report of initial findings
- Development of a strategic plan for the Delinquency Prevention Commission
- Further development of the Community Relations Outreach Plan
- Each committee will develop a strategic plan or set of goals for the 2013-2014 fiscal year
- The committees will continue to work towards completing their goals
- The Executive Committee will work to fill vacancies
- The Commission will make an effort to recruit youth commissioners
- The Executive Committee will further develop the policies and procedures for the Commission

**Approved by the Placer County Juvenile Justice/Delinquency Prevention Commission
on June 20, 2013**



Sam Stodolski, Chairman